

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 OSLO 04953 281708Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 IO-13 ISO-00 EURE-00 SS-15 L-03 DODE-00 OES-06

DLOS-06 SAL-01 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 EB-07 TRSE-00 /082 W  
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P R 281627Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY OSLO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2533

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L OSLO 4953

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1

TAGS: PFOR, PBRO SV NO

SUBJ: CVALBARD BILATERALS

REF: (A) STATE 236750, (B) OSLO 4739

SUMMARY: NORWEGIANS HAVE PROPOSED PROGRAM AND AGENDA FOR BILATERAL SVALBARD MEETING. ONE MAJOR ITEM WHICH STILL REMAINS UNCERTAIN IS THE EXTENT TO WHICH NORWEGIANS WILL BE ABLE TO DISCUSS THE ISSUE OF ALTERNATIVE REGIMES FOR MANAGING SVALBARD CONTINENTAL SHELF RESOURCES. FOREIGN OFFICE PLANS CHECK WITH FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND ON THIS ISSUE. THEY ALSO PLAN TO PROVIDE PROPOSED AGENDA TO HIM FOR POSSIBLE USE IN HIS TALKS WITH SECERTARY SEPT 30. END SUMMARY.

1. EMBOFF MET SEP 28 WITH MFA POLAR ADVISOR BUCHER-JOHANNESSEN TO DISCUSS PROGRAM FOR UPCOMING SVALBARD BILATERAL TALKS. NORWEGIANS PROPOSE PROGRAM AS FOLLOWS:

MONDAY OCT 11

0900 USE DELEGATION CALL ON FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND

FOR GREETING AND EXCHANGE OF REMARKS.

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PAGE 02 OSLO 04953 281708Z

100-1230-BOTH DELEGATIONS ASSEMBLE AT MINISTRY OF DEFENSE  
FOR BRIEFING ON STRATEGIC AND MILITARY SITUATIONS  
IN BARENTS SEA BY MOD UNDER SECRETARY HOLST.  
FOLLOWING QUESTIONS AND ANSWER SESSION. NORWEGIANS  
WOULD LIKE US REPRESENTATIVES TO MAKE ANY REMARKS  
US WISHES TO MAKE ON STRATEGIC PICTURE, FOLLOWED  
BY QUESTIONS FROM NORWEGIANS.

1300 WORKING LUNCH GIVEN BY FOREIGN MINISTER.

1500-1630 WORKING SESSION AT FOREIGN MINISTRY.

TUESDAY OCT 13

100-1230 DISCUSSIONS AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY.

1500-1630 CONTINUATION OF DISCUSSIONS AS REQUIRED.

2. BUCHER-JOHANNESSEN SUGGESTED FOLLOWING TENTATIVE AGENDA:  
FOLLOWING INITIAL EXCHANGE ON STRATEGIC AND DEFENSE SITUATION  
AT MOD, AGENDA WOULD CONTINUE WITH NORWEGIANS (A) REVIEWING  
LATEST DEVELOPMENTS ON SVALBARD, INCLUDING UPGRADING RELATED TO  
SOVIET HELICOPTERS; (B) OUTLINING STATUS AND EVALUATION OF  
NORWEGIAN-SOVIET BILATERAL CONTINENTAL SHELF NEGOTIATIONS,  
WHERE RECENT SOVIET MISSILE TESTING IS SEEN AS NEW FACTOR.  
US SIDE WOULD (C) PROVIDE ANY ADDITIONAL RELEVANT INFORMATION  
ON US POLICY TOWARD SVALBARD AND (D) OUTLINE ANY SCIENTIFIC OR  
OTHER PROJECTS WE MAY BE CONSIDERING FOR SVALBARD AREA,  
INCLUDING STATUS OF NANSEN DRIFT STATION. WITH THESE LARGELY  
INFORMATION ITEMS CLEAR DISCUSSION SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO  
NORWEGIAN EXPOSITION ON (E) THEIR PLANNING FOR SVALBARD  
FISHERY REGIME AND (F) NORWEGIAN REACTIONS TO QUESTIONS RAISED  
IN US MAY AIDE-MEMOIRE ON ARRANGEMENTS FOR MANAGEMENT AND  
EXPLOITATION OF SHELF RESOURCES ON BASIS ACCEPTABLE TO THE PARTIES.

3. PARTICIPANTS FOR THE NORWEGIAN SIDE WILL BE MUCH THE SAME  
AS IN DECEMBER BILATERALS. THEY WILL PROBABLY BE LED BY  
MFA SECRETARY GENERAL SVERRER GJELLUM AND INCLUDE MFA POLITICAL  
DIRECTOR VIBE, LEGAL DIRECTOR ELIASSEN, BUCHER-JOHANNESSEN  
AND PLANNING UNDER DIRECTOR AND SOVIET EXPERT STENSETH. THERE  
WILL ALSO BE A REPRESENTATIVE FROM MINISTRY OF DEFENSE AND  
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PAGE 03 OSLO 04953 281708Z

JUSTICE MINISTRY.

4. EMBASSY HAS RESERVED FOUR SINGLES WITH BATH AT HOTEL  
SCANDINAVIA, AND WILL MEET US TEAM ON ARRIVAL.

5. BUCHER-JOHANNESSEN SAID HE WOULD SEND COPIES OF PROPOSED  
AGENDA TO FOREIGN MINISTER FRYDENLUND FOR POSSIBLE DISCUSSION  
WITH SECRETARY WHEN THEY MEET SEPT 30 IN NEW YORK.

6. COMMENT: FORMULATION OF LAST AGENDA ITEM IS BUCHER-JOHANNESSEN'S. HE ADMITTED TOEMBOFF THAT HE WAS UNCERTAIN AS TO HOW MUCH NORWEGIANS COULD DISCUSS THE ALTERNATIVE REGIME ISSUE MENTIONED IN OUR AIDE MEMOIRE. SINCE HIS COMMITTEE TO EXAMINE THIS QUESTION HAS BEEN DISBANDED (OSLO 4739) HE SAID HE WOULD HAVE TO DISCUSS WITH FOREIGN MINISTER WHAT NORWEGIANS COULD OFFER AT THIS TIME ON THIS SUBJECT.

7. AS WE NOTED IN OSLO 4739, WE ARE CONCERNED ABOUT NORWEGIAN RELUCTANCE TO ADDRESS THE CENTRAL QUESTION OF OUR AIDE MEMOIRE AND THE KEY APPROACH TO OUR ALTERNATIVE STRATEGY FOR DEALING WITH SVALBARD SHELF ISSUE. AT THIS STAGE WE CAN ONLY SPECULATE THAT FOR REASONS GROWING OUT OF THEIR EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN THEIR SOVEREIGNTY, UPCOMING NATIONAL ELECTIONS, DESIRE TO PROTECT THEIR LEGAL POSITION, OR CONCERN ABOUT THE SOVIET REACTION SHOULD THEY HEAR OF SHELF MANAGMENT TALKS, THE NORWEGIANS SEEM TO HAVE BACKED AWAY FROM DISCUSSING THIS SUBJECT. ANDERS

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## Message Attributes

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